



Grass Clippings

Don't Bag 'Em, Leave 'Em

10 Reasons to STOP Bagging Grass Clippings

1. **SAVE MONEY!**
 - a. Help our City keep solid waste costs down
 - b. Prevent the need to buy as many bags
 - c. Less fertilizer for you to buy
 - d. Reduce the amount of water you use since grass clippings hold moisture
2. **SAVE TIME!** Less mowing equals less time bagging. If you have a lawn service, leaving the grass clippings will save them time and maybe save you money, too!
3. **PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT!**
 - a. Less toxic runoff entering storm drains means less polluting of the Gulf of Mexico, creeks, rivers and lakes
 - b. Less air pollution with fewer trips to the landfill
 - c. Overall reduction of waste in landfills
4. Landfills are already clogged with millions of pounds of yard waste - about 10-20%. Don't add to this!
5. Cut grass clippings left on the lawn are **VALUABLE!** That's right - they're a source of free, nutrient-rich fertilizer with 4% nitrogen.
6. Grass clippings contain 80-85% water and help keep moisture in the soil longer, thus reducing the need for frequent watering.
7. A special mower isn't needed--any mower can recycle grass clippings. Consult your owner's manual or ask your lawn mower dealer if a special safety plug or adaptor kit is needed to convert your mower into a "recycling" mower.
8. **DO YOU KNOW** that grass clippings left on the lawn result in a healthier, greener lawn?
9. Grass clippings **DO NOT** cause thatch problems. Short, dry grass clippings (an inch or less) decompose quickly.
10. **FANTASTIC FACT:** Grass clippings act as a mulch! Just grab some and spread them in thin layers in vegetable and flower beds or around the base of trees.

PLEASE HELP MAKE THE CITY OF BELLAIRE A CLEANER, GREENER PLACE! If you have any questions or comments, please contact Public Works at 713 662-8170.

All information regarding grasscycling collected from on-line sources.

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A note from the Bellaire Recycling Committee and Public Works,

With Spring's arrival, our grass starts growing and we start the annual mowing and fertilizing ritual. This year we are kicking off a "Don't Bag 'em, Leave 'em" campaign in the City of Bellaire in an effort to reduce the amount of grass clippings we are hauling to the landfill. The reverse side of this insert has **10 Reasons to Stop Bagging Grass Clippings** that will help you understand why it is best to **Leave 'em!**

If you use a lawn service to care for your lawn, please ask them to leave your grass clippings on the lawn. We have drafted a note (see below) you can copy and give them.

With your participation, we can greatly reduce the impact that taking grass clippings to the

To: All Lawn Care Professionals Working in Bellaire

Please do not bag lawn clippings and leave them at the curb. Residents in the City have been asked to leave all grass clippings on the lawn.

Proper mowing is required if grass clippings are left on the lawn. Please follow these recommendations at our home.

- cut the grass when the surface is dry
- keep mower blades sharp
- follow the "1/3 rule:" mow the lawn so that no more than 1/3 of the length of the grass blade is removed

Thank you

A todos los jardineros de Bellaire,

Favor de no poner las bolsas con pasto cortado en la banqueta.

La Ciudad de Bellaire les ha pedido a sus residentes dejar el pasto recién cortado sobre el césped.

Se recomienda que la manera correcta de cortar el pasto y colocarlo es la siguiente:

- Cortar el pasto cuando esté seco
- Mantenga afilada la cuchilla de la cortadora
- Cortar solamente 1/3 parte de la altura del pasto y cortarlo frecuentemente

Muchas Gracias